

## TRAUMA MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy  
222 Sheep Davis Road  
Concord, NH

### MINUTES OF MEETING February 12, 2003

**Members Present:** John Sutton, MD; Kathy Bizarro, Heather Page, George Patterson, Sandy Hillsgrove, Estelle MacPhail, RN, Ian Butman, Richard Johnson, MD

**Guests:** Janet Houston, Donna Clark, RN, Susan Reeves, RN, MSN, Dave Dubey, Tom Blanchette, Melissa Twoomey, RN, Sharon Philips, RN

**Bureau Staff:** Sue Prentiss, Bureau Chief: Wanda Botticello, Executive Secretary, Fred von Recklinghausen, Research Coordinator, Will Owen, ALS Coordinator

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

**Item 1.** The meeting of the Trauma Medical Review Committee was called to order by Dr. John Sutton at 9:35 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2003 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord, NH.

#### II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

**Item 1. June 27, 2002 Minutes.** *Motion* was made by Dr. John Sutton to accept the Minutes of August 20, 2002 meeting as printed and distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

#### III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**Item 1. Guest Introduced.** Dr. Sutton requested that members of the committee and guests introduce themselves. Above listed are the members, guests, and staff.

#### IV. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Item 1. Trauma Conference.** Chief Prentiss reported that the Trauma System Conference was held on November 6, 2002 – “Tiered Response Post 9-11.” The primary focus was the role of the Trauma System in responding to multiple patient incidents, and overall Disaster Preparedness. Also covered was EMTALA and the

Trauma System as well as a panel discussion on Trauma Team Activations and the Neurosurgical coverage at Level II's.

Ninety participants registered for the day, which was an increase from last year. The unexpected snow stranded a few of the participants and speakers. A review of the evaluations showed positive responses. Ideas for the content of this conference came from the Trauma Medical Review Committee.

Chief Prentiss thanked Janet Houston and EMS for Children for their continued partnership.

**Item 2. "Hold Times" Study.** Dr. Sutton turned the discussion to Fred von Recklinghausen, Research Coordinator for the Bureau of EMS. Based on a conversation that Fred and Dr. Sutton had later last year, Fred examined how long patients transferred to Dartmouth stayed (Hold Time) in a referring hospital. Discussion followed.

A copy of the presentation is enclosed with the minutes.

**Item 3. Trauma and Emergency Medical Services Information System.** Fred also reported on the Trauma Grant and the development of the TEMSIS project. As reported previously, in an effort to develop evaluation and monitoring capabilities for our Trauma and EMS System, funds from the Trauma Grant are being used to pull together the key partnerships necessary, hold a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) EMS Information Systems Course and support committee activities over a three year period. This group is charged with developing a consensus based action plan for an Information System including Patient Care Reporting (PCR) and organization of information and reports. In preparation, Fred has prepared a report on the current state of data collection in NH, the possible systems, what types of systems other states that are similar to NH have and plans for the TEMSIS group. Discussion followed.

A copy of the presentation is enclosed.

**Item 4. Airmedical Notification Project.** Donna Clark from the Dartmouth Hitchcock Advanced Rescue Team (DHART) presented the history of the proposed Airmedical Notification Project. This project would consist of a collaboration between E-911 and Air medical programs utilized in NH. A response determinant used by E-911 in Concord to identify a set of the most serious Motor Vehicle Crashes would trigger to DHART's communication center to inquire if Airmedical was available for that call. If so, this information would be shared with the local Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) handling the call. This would first be evaluated in an area of the state that chose to take this project on for evaluation purposes. Discussion followed.

The plan based on the Committee's discussion would be for the following actions to take place:

- Will Owen to Coordinate Protocol Development with Donna York-Clark and identified partners/stakeholders
- Fred von Recklinghausen to develop evaluation tool and to identify areas of the state that may benefit from this type of program
- Sue Prentiss to investigate who has the final authority to implement this type of program

Bureau staff will report back at the next meeting.

**Item 5. Trauma Plan.** Chief Prentiss stated that as soon as the Bureau has a Trauma Coordinator full-time, a look back and updating of the Plan was a priority. Issues that had surfaced during the development of our Trauma System today in terms of Neurosurgical coverage at Level II Trauma Hospitals, as well as how and when Trauma Teams activate need to be re-visited.

Janet Houston inquired about the Division's ability to write rules in Administrative Code specific to Trauma System Clinical Capability levels and other related items to provide some "teeth" and enforcement ability. Chief Prentiss was aware that Dr. Sutton and Director Mason had met to discuss this last year in the early days of the Bureau's transition and that this will be possible.

Discussion followed.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1. Hiring a Trauma Coordinator.** Chief Prentiss stated that two candidates were interviewed for the position on January 30, 2003. Both candidates were nurses. The Bureau was engaging in a background check on one of the two candidates. Janet Houston and Estelle MacPhail had participated in the interview process. A second interview was being arranged.

**Item 2. Trauma Documentation Coordinator.** Chief Prentiss announced that George Patterson had joined the Bureau staff as the Trauma Documentation Coordinator. This position is part-time (25 hours per week) and grant funded. George would be working within the first year primarily on TEMSIS.

## **VI PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made.

## **VII ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Dr. Sutton to adjourn at 11:35a.m.

## **VIII    NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2003 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 222 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, NH.

**MEETING CHANGED TO APRIL 23, 2003!**

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Prentiss, Chief  
NH EMS

SP/as